

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 5-15-03.

I. DISPUTE

Whether there should be reimbursement for CPT codes: 22650-80, 22830-80 and 20975-80.

II. FINDINGS

The respondent denied reimbursement based upon: “22650-80 – (F) Procedure code should not be billed without appropriate primary procedure; 22830-80 – By clinical practice standards, this procedure is incidental to the related primary procedure billed; and 20975-80 – This procedure is not payable to an assistant surgeon.”

III. RATIONALE

DOS	CPT CODE	Billed	Paid	EOB Denial Code	MARS (Maximum Allowable Reimbursement)	Reference	Rationale
6-25-02	22650-80	\$1250.00	\$0.00	F	\$637.00 X 25% = \$159.25	Surgery GR (I)(E)(2), (I)(D)(2)	Per Surgery GR, arthrodesis is a secondary procedure when a vertebral procedure is performed. The requestor performed vertebral procedures on this date and was reimbursed. Therefore, reimbursement of \$159.25 is recommended.
	22830-80	\$1000.00	\$0.00		\$3338.00 X 25% = \$834.50 X 50% = \$417.25	Surgery GR (I)(E)(2), (I)(D)(2)	Operative report supports procedure performed. Exploration of fusion mass is not incidental to primary procedure. Reimbursement of \$417.25 is recommended.
	20975-80	\$250.00	\$0.00		\$455.00 X 25% = \$113.75	Surgery GR (I)(D)(2)	MFG does not exclude assistant surgeon from procedures performed, reimbursement of \$113.75 is recommended.
TOTAL							The requestor is entitled to reimbursement of \$690.25 .

IV. DECISION & ORDER

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined that the requestor **is** entitled to reimbursement for CPT codes, 22650-80, 22830-80 and 20975-80, in the amount of **\$690.25**. Pursuant to Sections 402.042, 413.016, 413.031, and 413.019 the Division hereby ORDERS the Respondent to remit **\$690.25** plus all accrued interest due at the time of payment to the Requestor within 20 days receipt of this Order.

The above Findings, Decision and Order are hereby issued this 2nd day of February 2005.

Medical Dispute Resolution Officer
Medical Review Division